Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-05 CEA-01 /105 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2771
TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMMBASSY BONN 2606
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

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USEEC

USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN'S AGGREGATE TRADE DATQ - OCTOBER - PROVISIONAL

1. SUMMARY: JAPAN'S EXPORTS EXPANDED SLOWLY IN OCT WHILE IMPORTS DECLINED FOR SECOND STRAIGHT MONTH, ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY CUSTOMS BASIS FOREIGN TRADE DATA (DENOMINATED IN DOLLARS) RELEASED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE (MOF) NOV 15. ADJUSTED EXPORTS ROSE 0.4 PERCENT IN OCT AFTER DECLINES IN PRECEDING TWO MONTHS. ADJUSTED IMPORTS FELL 4.8 PERCENT IN OCT FOLLOWING 4.7 PERCENT DROP IN SEPT. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED VOLUME ESTIMATES SHOWED DECLINES FOR BOTH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS IN OCT BUT THE 3.7 PERCENT DROP IN IMPORT VOLUME WAS CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN THE 1.2 PERCENT FALL IN EXPOT UNCLASSIFIED

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VOLUME. AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, WITH THE OCT FIGURES MOF STARTED PRESENTING CUSTOMS BASIS TRADE DATA IN YEN. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE PRELIMINARY MOF DATA ON OCT CUSTOMS BASIS FOREIGN TRADE, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, IN BIL YEN, WITH YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE IN PAREN:

SEP OCT

EXPORTS (F.O.B.) 1,810.4 (2.8) 1,836.0 (4.5)

IMPORTS (C.I.F.) 1,524.4 (MIN 5.6) 1,514.2 (MIN 7.4)

3. SAME DATA IN MIL DOLLARS, WITH YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE IN PAREN:

SEP OCT

EXPORTS (F.O.B.) 6,778 (10.9) 7,019 (15.2) IMPORTS (C.I.F.) 5,706 (1.8) 5,784 (2.1)

4. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA FOLLOW IN BIL YEN WITH PERCENT CHANGE FROM PRIOR MONTH IN PAREN:

SEP OCT

EXPORTS (F.O.B.) 1,787.5 (MIN 0.3) 1,753.5 (MIN 1.9) IMPORTS (C.I.F.) 1,597.3 (MIN 4.1) 1,484.3 (MIN 7.1)

5. SAME ADJUSTED DATA FOLLOW IN MIL DOLLARS WITH PERCENT CHANGE FROM PRIOR MONTH IN PAREN:

SEP OCT

EXPORTS (F.O.B.) 6,694 (MIN 0.9) 6,723 (0.4) IMPORTS (C.I.F.) 5,974 (MIN 4.7) 5,685 (MIN 4.8)

6. JAPAN'S OCT EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM U.S. NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, FOLLOW (IN BIL YEN WITH YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE IN PAREN): UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPORTS TO U.S.(F.O.B.) 445.1 (13.7) IMPORTS FROM U.S. (C.I.F.) 240.6 (MIN 13.8)

7. JAPAN'S CRUDE OIL IMPORTS IN OCT (C.I.F., NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED) FOLLOW (YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE IN PAREN): YEN VALUE (IN BIL YEN) 506.9 (MIN 2.6) QUANTITY IMPORTED (IN MIL KILOLITERS) 22.3 (MIN 2.4)

8. OCT 1977 MOF PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGES IN INDICES OF QUANTUM AND UNIT VALUE FROM OCT 1976 AS FOLLOWS (YEN-DENOMINATED, CUSTOMS BASIS):

EXPORTS IMPORTS
QUANTUM 6.0 MIN 1.4
UNIT VALUE MIN 1.7 MIN 6.1

9. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY ESTIMATES OF PECENT CHANGES FROM PRIOR MONTH IN QUANTUM INDEX IN OCT AFTER SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT BASED ON SEASONAL FACTORS UNOFFICIALLY PROVIDED BY ECONOMIC PLANNING AGECY (EPA):

EXPORTS IMPORTS

WUSNYUM MIN 1.2 MIN 3.7

10. NOTE: RATS OF EXCHANGE USED BY MOF TO CONVERT TO YEN BASIS FOR OCT 1977 WERE 261.59 YEN PER DOLLAR FOR EXPORTS AND YEN 261.78 YEN PER DOLLAR FOR IMPORTS.

11. OCT DATA FOR JAPAN'S TRADE BY AREA AND COMMODITY WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.
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